



The Legion Bulletin











OCTOBER 2009

Hours: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Mon – Fri.
919-832-7506 Fax 919-832-6428 email – nclegion@nc.rr.com

PO Box 26657
Raleigh, NC 27611

Fall Conference

The Fall Conference will be held October 16-17, 2009 at the North Raleigh Hilton, Raleigh, NC. Room rates for this conference will be \$82 plus tax per night. For reservations call 1-800-445-8667, identifying yourself as being with The American Legion. **Room rate is guaranteed through Oct 1.** You can also make reservations online: <http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/RDUNHHF-LEG-20091015/index.jhtml>

-  Post Commander and Adjutant Awards
-  Boy Scout High Adventure Awards
-  Adult Scouter Training Scholarship
-  Baseball Hall of Fame Recipients
-  Post Newsletter Awards
-  Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
-  Employer Awards (several classes)
-  Colon Furr Scholarship

Award nominees must be submitted by **October 10, 2009 unless otherwise noted on form.** If you need nomination forms for any of the above, please call Dept Headquarters.

Legion News

Articles and photos for the Legion News must arrive at Department Headquarters by the 10th of the month preceding publication to make it into the paper. This next issue will be Nov/Dec, so the cut-off date is October 10. The paper is published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October and December. Please attach captions to photos with a brief description of the event. Give a list of names for the people/person in the photo. (Do not write on the back of the photo). If you would like to have photos returned, please include a self-addressed envelope.



October Membership Target

Congratulations to all posts who are on track for membership goals! Our next target date is **October 13, 2009, at 55%**. Let's keep up our pace and make the commitment!

Oratorical Contest

The time for Oratorical Contests is right around the corner. Enclosed is an order form for Oratorical Contest Information Packets. The packets are ready now. The packet information is also available at the website, www.nclegion.org. Be sure to have your Post Oratorical Chairman get in touch with school officials as early as possible to insure every student who would like to participate has the opportunity. If any Post is interested in hosting the State Oratorical Contest, scheduled for Saturday, March 6, 2010, please contact Chairman Clarence Beard at 704-732-1566 before October 15, 2009.

Proper Paperwork

Please encourage all of your members to get their military records and information in order, so when the time comes, the proper honors that they have earned and deserve, will be carried out. Be sure to write down their desires and along with their discharge papers, store in a safe place and advise your relatives where they can be found. These need to be turned over to the appropriate funeral director and they will handle everything from the honor guard to the military head stone. Don't wait until it is too late. Do it now. Thanks.

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To All Conference Attendees

It is very important that all attendees register and pay their \$5.00 registration fee. Your attendance and participation will insure the success of the conference. Its most important for all Committee/Commission members to attend their meetings and be involved in the business required of their Legion program. If you are on a department committee/commission and will not be able to attend your assigned meeting, please contact Department Headquarters prior to the meeting time and date, so that a note of your excused absence can be placed in your committee/commission chairman's folder. The day before the conferences and convention your staff personnel will be out of the office, at the hotel, setting things up for you. Committee/Commission chairmen requiring anything for their meeting other than their folder, please contact the office as many days as possible in advance, so we will have time to acquire the items that you will be needing to carry on your meeting.

Veterans' Service Fund

Just a friendly reminder of our pledge of support to the Veterans' Service Fund of 50¢ per member. While to some posts this may seem like a high price to pay, just try to image what it would be like without this fund. These precious dollars and cents go a long way in support of our veterans. While there is not a mandate that requires each post to contribute, each post is encouraged to do what they can to support our veterans. **Remember** – "It's not the price you pay to belong, It's the price you've paid to be eligible to belong." Commander Cook is asking all post members to donate an additional 50¢ per member to cover the 25¢ for the National Emergency Fund and 25¢ for the Child Welfare Foundation. This will be a total of \$1.00 per member. The CWF has been taxed in recent months due the economy and the ever growing need of National Guard and reserve units being activated. Their families getting behind on their bills quickly due to change and delays in income. Their children are our main concern.

VA WEBSITE

<http://www1.va.gov/health/>.

Info on health care, benefits, VA locations and much more.

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Membership Transmittals

A few reminders to assure your transmittals are handled as quickly as possible.

- 🕷 Double check the amount of your check with the number of renewals you are transmitting. There should be \$22.50 included for each renewal. Member data forms are for transferring members.
- 🕷 It is important to fill out the information on the right side of the transmittal form so if there is a question or issue, we can call the phone number or mail out information to reach the right person. If you are not transmitting dues for the transfer member, please do not include a membership card. When submitting transfers, just remember this quote, "no money – no card". If you aren't sending money, don't send a card. Be sure to include the white, yellow and pink copies when submitting a data form for transfer.
- 🕷 National is maintaining control of members joining thru the DMS program. Please provide mailing addresses for members transferring from another state or from HQ36.
- 🕷 Plain paper or an email can be used for address changes or to inform us of members that have passed away. Please provide ID#, member name and the change. No changes to address or name will be made from the renewal cards themselves.

Patient Care Group

The Department of veterans Affairs has reported that the "Patient Care Group" is conducting a scam operation against veterans who receive VA prescriptions. Callers claiming to be representatives of this group tell veterans that their prescriptions are being administered by the company. They are asking for credit card information so that the veterans can continue to receive their medications. Please alert all of your members of this scam. All billing for any VA treatment/or prescriptions is done through the MCCR Section of the VA. The VA Agent Cashier is the only VA employee authorized to accept credit card payments, and the VA does not call veterans asking for to disclose personal financial information over the phone. **Please get the word out!**

